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9124
SIZES 8-18
by Marian Martin

Mission Group Sets Meeting

Amigos Internacionales, a Christian mission organization, will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Pioneer Room, Kilgore National Bank building.

Amigos was founded for the purpose of providing medical and dental care along with a Christian witness to the Rio Grande Valley. The work has been expanded to include agricultural assistance and the territory now includes British Honduras.

Six mobile medical and dental clinics have been built by Amigos supporters. The first one was built in 1967 in Kilgore under the direction of John LaNoue, who was then director of the Baptist Student Union, Kilgore College. Five of these clinics have been working in the Rio Grande Valley. The sixth was recently completed and sent to British Honduras.

Speakers at the Tuesday meeting will be John LaNoue, founder of Amigos; Dr. Jack Coster, entomologist, Stephen F. Austin State University; and Elmin Howell, coordinator for the River Ministry, Baptist General Convention of Texas. They will report on work that has been done in British Honduras and the Rio Grande Valley in recent months.

The public is invited to this meeting. Dr C. H. Whiteside and Dr. R. B. Echols are in charge of local arrangements. Those planning to attend are asked to call 984-9478 or 984-7020.

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This Week In Kilgore

MONDAY

7:30 p.m.—Wesleyan Service Guild, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Mrs. C. B. Guttry, 500 Edgewood.

TUESDAY

9:30 a.m.—Circles 1 and 2, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, to meet in Porter Griffin Room.

7 p.m.—American Legion and Auxiliary to meet at Legion Building for covered dish supper honoring Boys State and Girls State participants.

7 p.m.—Business Women's Circle to meet at First Baptist Church.

WEDNESDAY

10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.—Club for retired persons, covered dish lunch, to meet in Laird Hall, St. Luke's United Methodist Church.

THURSDAY

7:30 p.m.—Phi Sigma Alpha Sorority to meet at home of Mrs. C. W. Waldo, 615 Carlisle, for program, "Woman's Role in Thanksgiving." Executive board to meet at 7 p.m.

WELFARE ROLL GROWS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Persons on public assistance rolls numbered 15,071,000 in July, about 16,000 more than in June and 805,000 more than in July 1971, the Health and Welfare Department reported.

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Abby, your inspiration is aid to volunteers

By Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: I just heard you speak to a packed ballroom in St. Petersburg, Fla., for Goodwill and I want to thank you for saying, *"I've been doing volunteer work all my life!"*

Oh, Abby, how I pray that because YOU do it, others will be inspired to do it, too.

If everyone, young, old, rich, poor, educated or not, would give one day a month (or even an hour), it would make such a happy difference in their lives as givers and would also enrich the programs of civic, religious and "helping" organizations tremendously.

Florida is well known for its retirement advantages—yet all over St. Petersburg men and women are sitting alone in self-pity because they are just plain bored. [As they say, "waiting to die." That's pathetic, considering how much easier they could make life for someone who is "waiting to live."]

And since when is "age" an excuse for not giving time or talent? Many star volunteers are in their 60s and 70s.

Today, so many of our young people are talking "LOVE." Well, kids, how about putting the "bod" where the mouth is? Nursing homes, hospitals, mental institutions, rehabilitation centers, etc., could use volunteers.

Abby, you mentioned that Goodwill needs volunteers to write letters for the handicapped, take them shopping, to doctors, or therapy, and even to an occasional movie or for a drive. Volunteers can answer the telephone, type, file, address envelopes, or teach simple English pronunciation to those with speech defects. The list is overwhelming.

I could go on and on. I only wanted to thank you from the bottom of my heart for encouraging people to do for others. INSPIRED

DEAR INSPIRED: Your letter is far more inspirational than what I said in St. Petersburg. Thank you for writing.

DEAR ABBY: I'm having problems with my husband. I am 23 and he is 26, and we've been married for five years and have three children. He knows I don't like it when he makes a fuss over other girls, but he does it just to make me jealous.

Another problem is that he forces himself on me and if I struggle he ties me to the bed with ropes. If he wasn't my husband this would be classified as rape. Abby, things just can't go on like this. When he's nice, he's sweet as sugar, but when he's mean he frightens me half to death.

He also has a seizure disorder which he is being treated for. We are on welfare because of his sickness, but he cashes his welfare check and gives all the money to me, so I can't complain about that. Can you help me? LOTS OF PROBLEMS

DEAR LOTS: If you haven't discussed your husband's sadistic behavior with his doctor, you should. The Welfare Information Service can put you in touch with a Family Service Agency. They offer family counseling, and the fee is nominal. If you can't persuade your husband to go with you—go alone, but DO go.

DEAR ABBY: My problem is not knowing how to introduce my boy friend. He is a doctor.

Do I say, "Mrs. Brown, I would like you to meet Dr. Smith"? Or do I just omit the "doctor" and introduce him as "Mister"?

I always feel so foolish introducing him as "Doctor." It sounds like I'm bragging. UNSURE

DEAR UNSURE: He has earned the title, and should be introduced as "Dr."—not "Mister." But if you are self-conscious about it, simply introduce him as "John Smith." They'll soon find out he's a doctor.

CONFIDENTIAL TO WILLIAM R. HEROLD—who wants to translate my booklet, "What Teen-Agers Want to Know," into French: please write to me and send me your address.

For Abby's new booklet, "What Teen-Agers Want to Know," send $1 to Abby, Box 69700, Los Angeles, Cal. 90069.

Secretaries Get Special Club

DALLAS (AP) — A club especially for executive secretaries whose bosses fly on Southwest Airlines has been announced by the airline's vice president for marketing.

The club, known as the "Southwest Sweethearts Club," offers special features for secretaries booking their bosses on the executive service flights of Southwest Airlines, which flies commuter jets between Dallas, Houston and San Antonio.

Secretary members making reservations on Southwest will receive free tickets for each 7½ round trips their bosses fly.

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Flexible Work Time Arranged

By HANNA NEUERBOURG
Associated Press Writer

ZURICH, Switzerland (AP) — If her party breaks up well after midnight, secretary Roswitha Lohmann, 24, just shows up at her office an hour later than usual the next morning. Her boss greets her with a joke.

Kurt Wagner, 45-year-old quality controller, always leaves early in summer so he can work in his garden. His manager waves goodby.

These two — and several hundred thousand others — are benefitting from flexible work week arrangements that have become greatly popular in Switzerland ever since they were first imported from neighboring West Germany in 1969.

No official statistics exist but some experts believe that the work week "a la carte" or flexitime is more widely practiced in Switzerland then in any other industrialized country.

"If I feel like it, I put the cover on my typewriter at 4 p.m. and go shopping," Mrs. Lohmann says. "Shops are not so crowded at this time. And if I want to stay in bed for another hour after a late night I do not have a bad conscience."

Mrs. Lohmann works with a large company at Zug, near here, that offers the most radical variation of flexitime, the "sliding work schedule." Under this system, the employe can report to work any time between 6:30 and 8 a.m., take up to a 90-minute lunch hour 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. and leave between 4 and 6 p.m. during the five-day 44-hour week.

Also, the system allows employes to accumulate a surplus or deficit of up to 15 hours per month that has to be recouped or idled off in the following month. Overtime is counted extra and has to be ordered by the management.

American experiments with a changed work period have focused chiefly on the four-day week. Perhaps 4,000 companies employing 800,000 workers are estimated to have gone to the four-day week. Employe reaction has been generally favorable.

The majority of Swiss companies using flexitime seem to favor another system, providing for an individually determined schedule to be observed for at least a month.

The flexitime arrangement leaves a daily block of almost six hours during which all employes are around at the same time.

"One advantage of our system is that it forces executives to make more use of dictaphones and other office equipment and to get better organized," said one personnel executive. "Also, you have to realize that in Switzerland a secretary is really a secretary and not a receptionist as executives seem so fond of having in the United States.

"Finally, once they have found their rhythm, employes tend to stick more or less to a certain schedule that seldom varies more than 10 minutes. Anyway, we have never had havoc around here because of flexitime."

"I have yet to hear a complaint about flexitime," says Dr. A. Thommen, a leading official of the Swiss Employers Association. "This is a trend that will not be stopped. I think that within two or three years it will be introduced wherever possible."

Comments from workers and employers list multiple advantages of flexitime. For commuters it may mean less crowded trains, motorists may escape the rush-hour grip, girls find it easier to get a date for a hairdo and fathers can take a daylight glimpse of their families.

Employment analysts say a prime achievement is the increased feeling of individual responsibility. Flexible work schedules "reaffirm the individuality" of employes, a study says.

Employers also note that flexitime often means a better use of capacities, a point of specific importance for Switzerland with its chronic labor shortage.

"This makes it easier to cover peak periods with additional, temporary personnel," one explained.

Absenteeism is out, too, personnel managers report: "The cases were not rare when people who got stuck in traffic jams went home again and reported ill instead of showing up late at the office. For us, that is a thing of the past."

For obvious reasons, flexitime can be more easily introduced for white-collar staffs than in industrial production that relies on assembly lines and other collective efforts. According to latest estimates, only a fifth of all Swiss industrial workers have flexible work weeks, while in banks and insurances, it is already 50 per cent and more.

Analysts say the trend appears to favor the individually fixed but rigid schedule rather than the radical "sliding" system which requires a return to the card-punching time clock that had been widely discarded in Switzerland.

JUST DOING FINE—Mrs. Raymond F. Martin Friday gave birth to a daughter, 9-pound Mary Jane. Mrs. Martin is 57 years, 127 days old, what record book said was three days short of being the oldest woman to give birth. (AP Wirephoto)

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